

FAMINE CAUSING A WIDESPREAD GERMAN DEMAND FOR PEACE

The workers refused point blank to submit "conditions" to arbitration. "Gravely concerned" at the effect the wood workers strike will have on public opinion, big labor leaders today started a drive on William H. Hatcher, head of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners.

They declared Hatcher, since the opening of the war, has been the only labor international president who has blocked the Government. He alone, they say, refused to sign the agreement entered into between labor and the Government last June.

Conscription of labor alone will not solve the shipbuilding problem, Secretary of Labor Wilson stated today. "I am opposed to drafting labor for work in private plants, regardless of whether these plants are working on Government contracts," said Wilson. "The whole plant should be taken over by the Government before conscripting labor."

The Secretary said no immediate action to end the strike of ship carpenters at New York is planned by the Labor Department, but that he was "keeping in close touch with the situation."

He refused to comment on the present necessity of the Government taking over the privately owned shipyards but emphasized that he believed that steps should be taken before efforts to force labor to work were taken.

Chairman Hurley has sent another message to William L. Hatcher, President of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, renewing his demand that striking shipyard employees be sent back to work pending an adjustment of their differences. He said in part:

"Yours of the 14th received. You were present at the convention of the American Federation of Labor in Buffalo on Friday, Nov. 23, when, by a unanimous vote, a resolution was passed stating that it is necessary to the Nation's protection, as well as to the welfare of the trade union movement, that there should be no cessation of work, except as a last resort and after due hearings."

He then tells of an agreement signed Aug. 20, and continues:

"Under this agreement a board was established composed of a representative of the Navy Department and Emergency Fleet Corporation, a representative of organized labor appointed by Mr. Gompers and the Chairman of the board appointed by the President of the United States. The agreement provided that all disputes as to wages, hours and conditions of employment should be submitted to this board for settlement. The official positions of the signers of this agreement are a guarantee of its fairness."

"You are the only international President of all crafts working in the shipyards who has refused to become a party to this agreement. Are the other international Presidents less patriotic or less careful of the interests of their crafts than yourself?"

"I do not question the patriotism of your members, and, in fact, have reason to believe they are as loyal as members of other organized crafts."

"Will you ask the men now paralyzing the shipyards and the Nation's war programme to go back to their work and trust their Government, through the Labor Adjustment Board, to deal fairly with them as it has with every other group of workers? Will you help now when every day's delay may mean the slaughter of our boys?"

President Gompers, according to Shipping Board officials, is co-operating with governmental agencies to effect a settlement of the problems that are pressing.

Rumors of a break in the ranks of the employers, which could not be verified, had it that a small ship repairing concern at Edgewater, N. J., had yielded to the demands of the ship carpenters and had taken back their striking employees at the rate of \$6.00. Organizers of the Brotherhood hailed the news as indicative that other and larger plants would fall shortly into line, but there was no basis for this optimism that was discreditable.

SHIP STRIKE ZONE COVERS NEWBURGH TO PERTH AMBOY; 10,000 ARE REPORTED OUT

Walkout Sweeps Along Seaboard as U. S. Officials Move for Settlement.

The strike of the woodworkers and allied trades in shipyards working upon Emergency Fleet Corporation's wooden fleets to-day extends from Newburgh to Perth Amboy, John Stuart, Secretary of the Marine Woodworkers' Local Council, said at noon.

This involves 40 of the 66 shipyards in the Metropolitan district, on both shores of the Hudson and New York Bay and, as the secretary of the union maintains, has resulted already in 10,000 men quitting work. Reports from the various local councils indicate, said Stuart, that 12,000 will be the total number involved by night.

In the Staten Island yards, where the trouble began, there now are 2,000 men on strike, including shipbuilders who decided to walk out this morning, though their union has presented no demands upon employers. From Standard Hall in Mariners'

harbor, S. I., which served as a meeting place for 800 strikers, this morning, delegations of ten men went to Hoboken, Perth Amboy and Brooklyn yards to induce those still at work to lay down their tools.

President W. L. Hatcher of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, at the Continental Hotel headquarters, received unofficial word of the conference at Washington between Assistant Secretary of the Navy Roosevelt, Chairman Macey and Fies of the Wage Adjustment Committee and professed to see hope for a peaceable settlement in the meeting.

"Now that Secretary Daniels and his assistants have taken a hand, we'll show the Shipping Board some thing," was the comment of T. M. Guerin, national organizer of the brotherhood.

Hatcher revealed to-day how Chairman Macey had "turned down cold" the former's proposal, made to him in Washington yesterday, that the Brotherhood should have a member sit on the Wage Adjustment Committee with full power to vote on all adjustments affecting the union workers who were Brotherhood members. Hatcher said admirable precedent for his scheme was offered last October when, after three months of dispute with navy yard workers, Assistant Secretary of the Navy Roosevelt admitted Guerin to sit with the Wage Adjustment Board and the whole matter was satisfactorily cleared up in three hours.

Mr. Guerin hailed this report of the intervention of the Department of Labor as the most favorable sign in the day's developments.

"If the Department of Labor has power to act in a real attempt to adjust the wage grievances of the union men," said he, "I believe full confidence on their part will be restored and an immediate adjustment of the entire situation will be effected."

"The striking members of the union as well as all others who threaten to walk out, so far have lost confidence in the work of the Wage Adjustment Committee of the Shipping Board that I do not believe that Mr. Hatcher or any other officer of the brotherhood could force them to return to work on promises of what that committee intends to do. If the Department of Labor can take charge of the situation without the meddling of the Shipping Board doubtless there will be another story to tell."

Guerin expressed doubt as to whether the carpenters would pay any attention to Hatcher's appeal last night to obey the call of patriotism and refrain from tying up work at the shipyards. One reason he gave was that the President of the Brotherhood had made his appeal only through the newspapers and had not, so far as Guerin knew, sent the plea direct to the strikers through his subordinate officials of the union.

Guerin hinted at a possible compromise acceptable to the strikers. Carpenters employed in construction work about the city make \$5.50 a day, he said. Those employed by the ship building companies were working on a wage scale of \$4.80 when they struck for \$6.00.

"It's all well and good to appeal to the men's patriotism," said Guerin, "but when a carpenter is asked to give up \$5.50 a day and accept \$4.80 for the good of the Government his patriotism may not bridge the difference in wages. I believe the striking union men should accept a compromise of \$5.50."

HOLD SHIP MEN AUTOMATICALLY LIABLE TO DRAFT

Thousands of striking shipbuilders in New York and elsewhere who threaten to seriously impede the plans of the Government to form a gigantic merchant marine, are automatically liable for service in the National Army under the Selective Draft Law, according to private opinions expressed to-day by several members of the District Draft Appeals Board.

The rule of the draft board recommends deferred classification for all workmen employed in speeding up the nation's ship-building and other industries vitally necessary to the Government in time of war. Complications arising from the wholesale abuses of this classification now confront the striking shipbuilders, for under another rule of the draft board, all such deferred exemptions will be revoked.

Under the specifications of deferred classification a man employed by an industry of value to the Government in its preparation to equip the armies must append his sworn statements of essential usefulness with the affidavit of his employer. The deferred classification is then granted on the employer's petition.

Several members of the District Draft Appeals Board pointed to the fact that as soon as a man in the employ of such useful industries goes out on strike or leaves the employ in any other way, it is ordered that the employer notify the authorities. The deferred classification which put the workman's name far down in the list of those eligible for the draft, is then immediately revoked.

Draft boards contend the men who have been essentially useful to the Government are no longer useful as

American Red Cross Nurses Manage Hospital For British Soldiers at St. Katherine's Lodge



AMERICAN RED CROSS NURSES MANAGE HOSPITAL FOR BRITISH SOLDIERS AT ST. KATHERINE'S LODGE. THE STAFF ARE ALL AMERICANS.

strikers, whose actions have come to block the plans of the merchant marine. And as the authorities have been notified by the heads of various local industries engaged in war work as to the identities of all the men who have struck, exemptions for such labor now are void.

It was also explained that the striking shipbuilders who had deferred classification, but who may shortly return to their tasks, will find it difficult to regain their status as to exemption. Once these exemptions are revoked, the men are automatically reverted to Class I unless they can produce other well supported claims as to why they should be exempted from the draft.

ARMOUR AND MORRIS CALLED IN WAGE INQUIRY

Heads of Two Big Packing Concerns Summoned as Witnesses at Hearing.

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Counsel for the employees in the stock yards wage arbitration proceedings to-day asked to have J. O. Armour, President of Armour & Co., and Nelson Morris, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Morris & Co., appear as witnesses before Federal Judge Samuel Schuler.

Counsel for the packers promised to produce both witnesses if they were in the city.

DRIED HOPS AND FENNEL IN GERMAN "SMOKES"

Wild Oats, Heather and Bullrushes Also in Mixture, Colored With Elderberries.

PARIS, Feb. 5 (by Mail).—Some idea of the extent of the tobacco shortage in Germany was gained to-day by an expert analysis of Germany's "crack tobacco," now furnished to soldiers on the front and prisoners in France.

True to its name, it is not tobacco at all. Until recently German tobacco rationed out was composed of tobacco stems and a mixture of chopped leaves, principally cabbage or chicory.

The new "tobacco" makes its appearance in packages marked "Deutscher Taback, 60 gr. Preis 40 Pf." It is composed of a mixture of dried hops, fennel leaves, mint, verbena, wild oats, heather and bullrushes, and extracts its coloring from elderberries, fruit skins and fragments of pernicious wood.

LETTERS BETRAY EX-KING.

Is in Constant Communication With Royalists in Greece.

LONDON, Feb. 15.—Many compromising letters from those who surround ex-King Constantine of Greece have been found in a search of the houses of many persons arrested in Athens recently, says a despatch from the Times correspondent in Athens, dated Wednesday.

"It is now certain that active and regular correspondence has been carried on for months between the royal exiles and Constantine's partisans in Greece. It appears that the channels of this illicit intercourse were the consulates of two neutral powers, whose names I am not allowed to mention."

PRO-GERMANS IN NAVY YARD.

Two Workmen Discharged at Boston for Disloyalty.

BOSTON, Feb. 15.—It was announced at the Boston Navy Yard to-day that two workmen, both of German parentage, have been discharged after an investigation which showed that they had expressed pro-German sentiments.

ish Ministry at Warsaw had resigned to protest against the peace terms.

GERMANY STILL TRYING TO WIN ROUMANIA OVER

Foreign Minister Kuehlmann Going to Bucharest in Effort to Negotiate Peace.

COPENHAGEN, Feb. 15.—"Real peace negotiations between the Central Powers and Roumania have not been opened, but preliminaries have begun," declared a Berlin despatch received here to-day. Foreign Minister Kuehlmann soon will leave for Bucharest, former capital of Roumania, now in the hands of the Austro-Germans.

PAIRIS, Feb. 15.—Roumania is disappointed at President Wilson's failure to mention her in his latest message to the world, it was to-day learned on excellent authority.

If official encouragement is given to Roumania during this critical juncture it will be of great importance in helping offset the present menace from the Central Powers and the Russian Bolsheviks.

The country's morale is of the best and the army is still an important combative force, but encouragement of both diplomats and the army is imperative.

VON HINDENBURG IS SQUEEZING GERMANY AND AUSTRIA DRY

(Continued from First Page.)

10 per cent. for North Germany, as against 35 per cent. last year.

German Bohemia is suffering intensely. The death rate is appalling. POLISH MOTHERS DEMANDING BREAD AND PEACE.

Poland is famine-stricken. Cracow and the vicinity have been drained of every mouthful, which has been sent to other parts of Austria and Germany, regardless of the most primary needs of the district.

Women carrying starving babies parade the streets demanding bread and peace. Pillaging and wrecking are common occurrences, while troops from other parts of the empire steadily shoot the demonstrators down.

Hindenburg is squeezing Germany and Austria dry to keep up the army. This army he and Ludendorff propose to feed into the maw of another offensive.

The masses are already asking the "why" of it all. The Hindenburg party repudiate with promises of "early, miraculous peace."

But the handwriting is on the wall. Nothing short of a miracle can prevent disaster to the Kaiser's crown when the duped masses demand a reckoning.

GERMANS PLACE WARSAW UNDER MARTIAL LAW

Intense Feeling Among Poles Over Ukrainian Peace, and Demonstrations Are Threatened.

COPENHAGEN, Feb. 15.—Warsaw has been placed under martial law by the Germans as a result of the high feeling of the Polish population against the Central Powers, despatches received here to-day declared.

The streets are guarded by heavy forces of police and soldiers to prevent demonstrations planned by workmen's organizations. Most of the theatres and restaurants have been closed.

REGULAR TRAIN SERVICE MONDAY.

The Pennsylvania Railroad announced that it will operate regular trains on regular schedules on Monday, Feb. 19, after the suspension of service on Jan. 1, 1918.

GERMAN OWNERS SOUGHT TO WRECK AMERICAN PLANTS

Would Have Thus Deprived American Vessels of Needed Steam Valves.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 15.—Plans for the blowing up of the Schuetter-Koerting plants in this city and in Cornwall, Pa., were found in the strong box of Adelbert Koerting Fischer, the real head of the concern, when opened by Federal agents, say persons who saw the papers. In addition \$14,000 in gold and notes were found in the box with many important documents, which were turned over to a representative of A. Mitchell Palmer, Custodian of Alien Property.

The company had contracts with the Navy Department for valves used on ships for which it holds world patents. With the destruction of the plants the machinery for making these parts would have been ruined.

One of the documents prove, the agents say, that Fischer is a Captain in the German Army. Once President of the concern, Fischer was recently arrested as a dangerous enemy alien and is in the high internment camp at Hot Springs, N. C. One hundred and seventy-six other Germans left here yesterday for Hot Springs Camp.

TURKEY IS IMPRESSED BY THE SPEECH OF WILSON

Premier Sees Possibility of Further Discussion—Won't Consider Lloyd George's Address.

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 15.—President Wilson's speech offers the possibility of further development, if Turkey's territorial integrity is not restricted and its sovereignty preserved, Talaat Pasha, Turkish Premier, declared in an interview with a correspondent of the Neue Freie Presse.

"Premier Lloyd George's speech does not allow the possibility of discussion," he said.

LANCASHIRE TROOPS RAID GERMAN DEFENSE

London War Office Reports Taking of Prisoners Near the Ypres-Staden Railway.

UPRISINGS IN BELGIUM AGAINST GERMAN RULE

Crowds of Three Streets of Cities—Three Belgian Judges Deported to Germany.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Serious popular uprisings against the German yoke in cities of occupied Belgium were reported to the Belgian Legation here to-day in official despatches from the Belgian Government at Havre.

Crowds have paraded the streets of Antwerp, Malines and Brussels, and the German authorities have been forced to order troops to restore order.

The manifestations have been caused by the activities of the new Germanophile political party, the Activists, toward political autonomy for Flanders.

The Chief Justice and two associate Justices of the Belgian Court of Appeals at Brussels were removed by German authorities on the 8th of February, following action of the court in ordering proceedings against the Activists. All have been deported to Germany.

KALEDINE REPORTED DEAD.

Cossack Leader Who Resisted Bolsheviks Has Disappeared.

BODIES INDICATE NAVAL BATTLE OFF SKAGERRAK

Large Number of Dead German Sailors Washed Ashore on Swedish Coast.

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 15.—Recovery of a large number of bodies of German sailors who apparently had served on a warship, is believed to indicate that a naval engagement has just been fought, according to a despatch received here from Gothenburg, Sweden.

The great battle of Jutland, and other naval engagements, were in the North Sea, near the Skagerrak, which is one of the bodies of water joining the North and Baltic Seas.

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Ambassador's Return to U. S. Depends on Conference With President Irigoyen Next Week.

BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 15.—Dr. Romulo S. Naon, Ambassador to the United States, will be received by President Irigoyen next Tuesday and will present to the Executive data on international affairs.

Dr. Naon said that he probably would return to Washington early in March. He generally believed, however, that the Ambassador's return to the United States depends solely on whether this country will follow the United States into the war or at least break diplomatic relations with Germany, the Ambassador being said to be determined not to continue to represent Argentina as a neutral.

The President having ended the railroad strike by force, agitators have turned their attention to shipping. A general strike of all port workers is threatened, with the evident determination being to hold up cereal shipments to the Allies one way or another.

PERSHING NAMES THREE MEN WOUNDED IN ACTION

Hurts of All Are Slight—He Reports Deaths of Two From Pneumonia.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—General Pershing to-day reported three American soldiers slightly wounded in action. Among them was Capt. Robert Drake, Medical Officers Reserve Corps, attached to the British Army. Capt. Drake was wounded on Feb. 5. His home is Edenton, N. C. The others are Corporal Robert B. Lanier of Louisville, Ky., and Private Bentley A. Nelson of Holt, Minn., who were wounded on Feb. 12.

It was Second Lieut. John F. McGuire, infantry, of St. Louis, and Second Lieut. John J. McGuire of New York, as previously reported, who were slightly wounded in action in France on Feb. 6. The War Department to-day issued this announcement.

German aviators again dropped bombs in the vicinity of Nancy.

GERMAN SOCIALISTS TAKEN IN POLICE RAIDS

Repressive Measures Reported Adopted in Berlin, Leipzig and Mannheim.

GENEVA, Feb. 15.—Many Socialists were arrested in police raids at Berlin, Leipzig and Mannheim, according to reports received here to-day.

No reasons for the raid are known.

PACIFIC FREE OF RAIDERS.

British Patrol Commander Declares See Adier Was Lost.

A PACIFIC PORT, Feb. 15.—The South Pacific Ocean has been swept clean of German raiders, according to an announcement to-day by the commander of a British warship, which has been on patrol duty along the west coast of South America.

MITCHELL ON ACTIVE DUTY

Former Mayor, Now Major, Ordered to San Diego Flying Field.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Major John Purroy Mitchell, former Mayor of New York, was to-day ordered to active duty at Rockwell Flying Field, San Diego, Cal.

Ex-Mayor is held for trial. Edward Rogers, who was removed from the Postmaster's office of West Hoboken two months ago, was arraigned before United States Commissioner Edwin R. Stanton in Hoboken to-day on the charge of misappropriating Government funds. He was held in \$2,000 bail to appear Monday before Judge Haight in the Federal District Court.

DANIELS' SON SEEKS RANK.

Takes Examination for Marine Officers' Training School.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 15.—Joseph Daniels Jr., son of the Secretary of the Navy, to-day took his physical examination at the local marine corps recruiting station for entrance into the officers' training school of the Marine Corps.

DELAY IN SOLDIERS' MAIL IS LAID TO ARMY RULES

Letters Held Up After Reaching France, Says Assistant Postmaster General.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—War Department regulations primarily have been responsible for delay in delivering letters from home to American forces in France, Second Assistant Postmaster General Praeger to-day told the Senate Postal Committee.

Distribution of mail, he said, largely is in the hands of army officers, and for military reasons it is held up, some times ten days or two weeks, after reaching France before Post Office authorities there are advised of forwarding addresses of military units.

PHYSICAL TRAINING VOTE PROPOSED FOR SCHOOLS

Bill to Let Rural Districts Decide for Themselves Offered at Albany.

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 15.—A bill to amend the laws relating to the township school law and compulsory physical training in the public schools was introduced in the Legislature to-day by Assemblyman Seelye of Saratoga. Under its provisions the question of physical training would be determined by the vote of the electors of each rural school district.

Assemblyman Welsh of Albany, author of the physical training law, said to-day that physical training ought not to be optional any more than any other prescribed course of education. That such training was needed in the country even more than in the cities was indicated, he said, by a report of President Marshall Gen. Crowder that as a rule city bred boys were better fitted physically for military service than boys from the country.

COAL FOR URGENT NEEDS.

Bituminous Movements, However, Are Not Quite Satisfactory.

Enough anthracite coal is now arriving in the city to supply the most urgent needs—and a little more, according to an announcement by the local Fuel Administration to-day. Bituminous coal is still controlled in movement. Only 29,400 tons of bituminous were dumped at Jersey this water yesterday; 27,059 awaited dumping to-day.

Nevertheless vessels waiting for coal are being accommodated fairly well, according to Deputy Treasurer Commissioner Seales. Seven were assigned bunker coal yesterday; nineteen are waiting for bunkering.

Most of the railroads doing a heavy commuter service into New York announced to-day that, following the abrogation of the "Garfield Monday" regulations, their normal week day schedules will obtain on Monday next.

HOUSTON PENALTY UPHELD

Crowder Approves Court Martin's Sentence of Five Years Soldiers.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Judge Advoate General Crowder to-day held that the court martial in the case of five Houston negro soldiers had been conducted according to law, and practically approved the finding of the death penalty in that case.

BRITISH LABOR BACKS WAR.

Head of Mission Declares 90 Per Cent. Are Patriotic.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—British labor is back of the nation to the finish in the war making the world safe for democracy, W. A. Appleton, Secretary of the British Federation of Trades, and head of the British Labor Mission to the United States, declared to-day.

"Ninety-nine per cent. of the workers are back of the nation to the finish in the war making the world safe for democracy," he said. "The British Mission is in the United States at the request of President Woodrow Wilson, and the American Federation of Labor. The four members will tour the country speaking to workers in the larger cities and outlining plans for accelerating production of munitions and war necessities."

PNEUMONIA STILL GAINS.

Increase of 18 Deaths This Week Over Total of Last Week.

There was an increase of eighteen deaths from pneumonia this week over that of the week previous.

From Saturday last to noon to-day there were 1,728 deaths from all causes in the five boroughs, 372 resulting from pneumonia, while during last week 1,772 deaths occurred, of which 355 were due to the disease.

During the (week) four hours ending at noon to-day 241 persons died in the Greater City, sixty according to pneumonia.

AUSTRIA BEERLESS—ALMOST

Production Reduced to 8 Per Cent. of That in Peace Time.

VIENNA, Jan. 29 (by mail).—The output of beer in Austria has been reduced to 8 per cent. of the peace production, according to an official order effective from Jan. 1.

To Fight for Vanderbilt Tax. State Comptroller Burgois will appeal from the decision of the Surrogate appointing the transfer tax appraiser's action in exempting from taxation \$250,000 of the estate of Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt, who was killed in the Lusitania. The appraiser had set the amount was non-taxable because the will designated the money to be given Mrs. Margaret E. McKim Vanderbilt by an anti-nuptial agreement in lieu of dower.

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